

Claim Amendments:

1 (currently amended). A double walled fluid holding vessel, comprising:

    a metallic lining having a wall and a bottom configured for holding a fluid; and

    a ~~substantially bottomless~~ ceramic shell having a shell wall provided substantially about said metallic lining, said ceramic shell being configured to define a bottom located through opening.

2 (original). The vessel of claim 1, wherein said lining and shell are spaced so as to define a gap therebetween that provides a thermal insulative function.

3 (original). The vessel of claim 1, wherein said lining includes a lip member that extends at least in part over a top edge of said shell.

4 (currently amended). The vessel of claim 1, ~~wherein said ceramic shell includes a shell wall,~~ and wherein said vessel further comprises a separate base member formed of a metallic material that is provided at a base region of said vessel and fixedly secured to at least one of said shell wall or metallic lining.

5 (original). The vessel of claim 1, further comprising a seal member provided at a top region of said vessel that forms an air and water tight seal between said lining and said shell.

6 (original). The vessel of claim 1, wherein the metallic material of said lining includes food-safe metallic materials.

7 (original). The vessel of claim 1, wherein the metallic material of said lining includes one or more materials from the group including stainless steel, aluminum, titanium, tin, and alloys thereof.

8 (original). The vessel of claim 1, wherein the ceramic material of said shell includes a fired nonmetallic mineral material.

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9 (original). The vessel of claim 1, wherein said ceramic material includes one or more materials from the group including porcelain, stoneware, earthenware and glass.

10 (original). The vessel of claim 1, wherein said lining has an overall vertical dimension that is greater than an overall horizontal dimension.

11 (original). The vessel of claim 1, wherein said metallic lining is configured in a manner that does not include coupling to an induction heating electrode.

12 (previously presented). A double walled fluid holding vessel, comprising:

a first member formed substantially of a metallic material and configured to hold a liquid; and

a second member formed substantially of a ceramic material and positioned at least in part around said first member;

wherein said metallic first member includes a lip that extend at least in part over a top edge of said second member so as to be visible in a side elevation view of said vessel.

13 (original). The vessel of claim 12, further comprising a base member formed substantially of a metallic material that is provided at a bottom of said vessel and has a side wall that is visible at least in part in a side elevation view of said vessel.

14 (original). The vessel of claim 12, wherein said lining includes stainless steel and said shell includes porcelain.

15 (currently amended). A double walled fluid holding vessel, comprising:

a metallic lining having a wall and a bottom configured for holding a fluid; and

a ceramic shell provided substantially about said metallic lining; and

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a seal member provided at a top region of said vessel that forms an air and water tight seal between said lining and said shell;

wherein said ceramic material includes one or more materials from the group including porcelain, stoneware, earthenware and glass; and

wherein said metallic lining is configured in a manner that does not include coupling to an induction heating electrode.

16 (original). The vessel of claim 15, wherein said lining includes a lip member that extends at least in part over a top edge of said shell.

17 (original). The vessel of claim 15, further comprising a separate base member formed of a metallic material and provided at a base region of said vessel and fixedly secured to at least one of said shell or lining.

18 (original). The vessel of claim 15, wherein the metallic material of said lining includes one or more materials from the group including stainless steel, aluminum, titanium, tin, and alloys thereof.

19 (currently amended). The vessel of claim 15, wherein said ceramic material includes one or more materials from the group including consisting of porcelain, stoneware, earthenware and glass.

20 (canceled).

21 (currently amended). The vessel of claim 4, wherein said base member is secured to said at least one of said shell wall and said lining in a manner that achieves a water tight seal.

22 (original). A double walled fluid holding vessel, comprising: a metallic lining having a wall and a bottom configured for holding a fluid;

a ceramic shell provided substantially about said metallic lining; and

a metallic base member provided at a base region of said vessel and fixedly coupled to at least one of said shell and lining.

23 (original). The vessel of claim 22, wherein said lining includes a lip member that extends at least in part over a top edge of said shell so as to be visible in a side elevation view of said vessel.

24 (original). The vessel of claim 22, wherein said base member has a side wall that is visible at least in part in a side elevation view of said vessel.

25 (original). The vessel of claim 22, wherein said ceramic material includes one or more materials from the group including porcelain, stoneware, earthenware and glass.

26 (currently amended). A double walled fluid holding vessel, comprising:

a metallic lining having a wall and a bottom configured for holding a fluid; and

a ceramic shell consisting of fired nonmetallic mineral material and having a shell wall provided substantially about said metallic lining, said ceramic shell being configured to define a bottom opening;

a separate metallic base member that is provided at a base region of said vessel and fixedly secured to at least one of said ceramic shell or metallic lining, wherein said metallic lining and said metallic base member are made of one or more metallic materials from the group of metallic materials consisting of stainless steel, aluminum, titanium, tin, and alloys thereof; and

a seal member provided at a top region of said vessel that forms an air and water tight seal between said lining and said shell;

wherein said lining and shell are spaced so as to define a gap therebetween that provides a thermal insulative function;

wherein said lining includes a lip member that extends at least in part over a top edge of said shell;

wherein said lining has an overall vertical dimension that is greater than an overall horizontal dimension; and

wherein said metallic lining is configured in a manner that does not include coupling to an induction heating electrode.

27 (currently amended). The vessel of claim 1, ~~further comprising a separate base member formed of a metallic material and provided at a base region of said vessel and fixedly secured to at least one of said metallic lining and shell wall~~ wherein said ceramic shell includes one or more ceramic materials from the group of ceramic materials consisting of porcelain, stoneware and earthenware.

28 (previously presented). The vessel of claim 23, further comprising at least one of:

a first peripherally disposed recess located at a top portion of said shell to receive said lip; and

a second peripherally disposed recess located at a bottom portion of said shell to receive said base member.